

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: To be assigned

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Attorney for Applicants

The person signing below certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)).

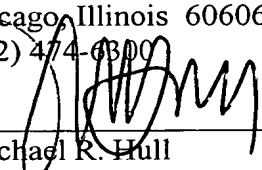
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

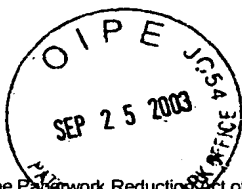
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September 23, 2003

By:



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/027,154
				Filing Date	December 20, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Timothy Ehr
				Art Unit	3736
				Examiner Name	To be assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	29985/01-028

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,621,646	11-11-1986	Bryant	
		5,025,786	06-25-1991	Siegel	
		6,044,845	04-04-2000	Lewis	(previously submitted 6/10/03)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP-0388113-A2	03-12-1990	Schneider		
		NL-1005134	08-03-1998	Industrial Research B.V. te Enschede	(previously submitted 6/10/03)	
		WO-99/56612	11-11-1999	Florence Medical Ltd.		
		WO-01/13789-A1	03-01-2001	Aortech International PLC		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report dated August 7, 2003	

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